GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1267
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2000
STORAGE OF FOODGRAINS IN F.C.I. GODOWNS
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned `CAG finds alarming shortage of grain, F.C.I. doesn`t accept` appearing in the `Indian Express` dated February 13, 2000; (

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken and proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN)

(a) : Yes, Sir.
(b) : There have been discrepancies in the figures of stocks foodgrains in central pool as maintained by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution and those maintained by Food Corporation of India (FCI). As per direction of the Cabinet Committee or Prices (CCP), the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) carried out special audit of the stocks of foodgrains held by FCI and pointed out a (-) variance of 4.74 lakh tonnes between the stocks of foodgrains as per book balance of FCI as on 31.3.97 and the stocks worked out by the surveyors appointed by C&AG as on that date. FCI has not accepted the variance of stocks of foodgrains as pointed out by C&AG in its audit report because of a different method, viz. volumetric method adopted by C&AG while conducting the special audit. .
(e) : The Ministry has examined the C&AG audit report and the objections of FCI on the report and has asked FCI to investigate the causes of shortages in those godowns where shortages were pointed out by C&AG.